(ग) बाल श्रम से संबंधित सरकारी योजनाओं और कार्यक्रमों का लक्ष्य उसका उत्तरोत्तर उन्मूलन करना है। राष्ट्रीय बाल श्रम नीति, 1987 श्रम मंत्रालय की सहायता अनुदान योजना और अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय श्रम संगठन द्वारा हाल ही में शुरू किए गए अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाल श्रम उन्मूलन कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत बाल श्रमिकों को कल्याण एवं उनके पुनर्वास से संबंधित परियोजनाएं चलाई जाती हैं। इन योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत नई परियोजनाओं की पहचान की जाती है और उन्हें समय-समय पर कार्यान्वित किया जाता है।

1981 की जनगणना के अनुसार सम्पूर्ण श्रम बल में बाल श्रम की प्रतिशतता 5.03 है।

MATERNITY BENEFIT ACT

2446. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Women's Association has demanded withdrawal of the allegedly by 'atrocious' amendment to the Maternity Benefit Act depriving maternity benefits to working women in respect of the third child; and invited attention to the rampant incidence of female foeticide and girl-infanticide;

(b) if so, what was the Governments response to this demand; and

(c) whether Government are also considering the question of granting incentives to unmarried working women especially in Government and Public Sector jobs, rather than withdrawing the maternity benefits if so, the details in his regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) The Government has received some representations protesting against the proposed amendment in the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 to restrict the grant of maternity benefit to women workers upto two living children. The views of the women's organisations have been noted and will be kept in view while finalising the proposal.

(c) No, Sir.

POSTS LYING VACANT AT VARIOUS COACHING-CUM-GUIDANCE CENTRES

2447. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Singular Operational Posts of Sub-Regional Employment Officer (SREO) and Assistant Employment Officer (AEO) lying vacant since long at various Coaching-cum-Guidance Centre for SC|ST.

(b) if so, the details of Centre-wise position of occurrence of such vacancies period from which such posts are vacant alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government are not inclined to fill up these posts urgently; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take for filling up these posts urgently to protect the interest of unemployed educated SC|ST candidates?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of Centre-wise position of occurrence of vacancies, period from which such posts are vacant alongwith reasons therefor is given in the statement I and II (see below) for Sub-Regional Employment Officers and Assistant Employment Officers respectively.

(c) and (d) The Recruitment process has been initiated to fill up the vacant posts.